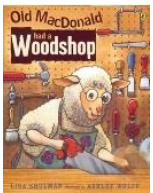


# Preschool Storytime

**“The smooth shapely maple blocks with which to build, the sense of which never afterward leaves the fingers: so form became feeling.”**

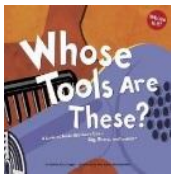
**Frank Lloyd Wright**

Books as **Foundation**:



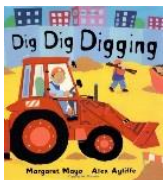
*Old McDonald Had a Workshop*, by Lisa Schulman

This book is a spin-off of the traditional children's song, so children will enjoy the familiarity and repetition of the chorus. Children will be introduced to lots of tools as Old McDonald creates a miniature toy farm for the baby animals. The sounds of the tools makes for great onomopoeia.



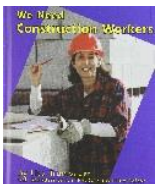
*Whose Tools are These: A Look at Tools Workers Use- Big, Sharp, and Smooth*, by Karen Katz Cooper

Community workers use different tools for the jobs they are doing. Children's critical thinking skills will grow as they learn to match the tool with the worker who uses it. This is a great book for teaching vocabulary.



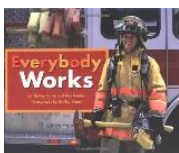
*Dig Dig Digging*, by Margaret Mayo

What's more fun than watching construction vehicles at work? This book describes what each vehicle does using a catchy verse. The colorful pictures will keep children's attention as they read about the work involved at construction sites. This book is also available in Spanish.



*We Need Construction Workers*, by Linda Trumbauer

This nonfiction book teaches about construction workers and their role in the community. Photos of real workers helps children make connections to the people they see working in their communities.



*Everybody Works*, by Shelly Rotner

There are different ways of working, and this book emphasizes it by exploring all of the aspects of living in a community. Some people work by creating music and others by delivering mail. The diverse photos will help children find someone they can relate to in their neighborhood.



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Props for community helper flannelboard-

<http://www.makinglearningfun.com/themepages/CommunityHelperFeltBoard.htm>

Songs and Fingerplays as **Framework:**

*Fingerplay:*

### **"Five Little Nails"**

Five little nails, standing straight and steady (hold your hand up with fingers straight)

Here I come with my hammer ready! (make a hammering motion)

Bam, bam, bam! That nail goes down.

Now there's just four nails left to pound. (hold up four fingers)

(count down from five to one as you repeat the verses)

Credit: Mel's Desk

*Song:*

### **"Construction Worker Song"** (to the tune of "This Is the Way We Go to School")

This is the way we pound our nails, pound our nails, pound our nails

This is the way we pound our nails, so early in the morning

(Saw the wood, turn the screwdriver, drill a hole, stack the bricks, stir the paint, paint the walls)

Credit: Everything Preschool

*Action Rhyme:*

### **"Johnny Works With One Hammer"**

Johnny works with one hammer, one hammer, one hammer (softly hit one fist on legs)

Johnny works with one hammer, then he works with two.

Johnny works with two hammers, two hammers, two hammers (softly hit both fists on legs)

Johnny works with two hammers, then he works with three.



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Johnny works with three hammers, three hammers, three hammers (softly hit both fists on legs and stamp one foot on the floor)

Johnny works with three hammers, then he works with four.

Johnny works with four hammers, four hammers, four hammers (softly hit both fists on legs and stomp both feet on the floor)

Johnny works with four hammers, then he works with five.

Johnny works with five hammers, five hammers, five hammers, (softly hit both fists on legs, stomp both feet on the floor, and nod head up and down)

Johnny works with five hammers, then he falls asleep.

#### Extension activities as **Walls**:

- Put out sets of blocks for children and families to play with. Encourage parents to follow their child's lead and ask open-ended questions about their building. Here are some tips for safe and creative block play-
  1. Tape off an area directly in front of the block storage and name it a "No build zone". Children will be able to access blocks without disturbing structures.
  2. Have about 25 blocks per child in your inventory.
  3. Explain safety rules such as not building taller than the child's height, not throwing blocks, etc. before play starts.
  4. Have paper and markers on hand so children can make signs or label their structures.
  5. Take pictures of structures to post on your library walls. Children love to see their work preserved in photos.
  6. Encourage children to clean up after themselves when done with building.
- Collect empty boxes of all shapes and sizes, and buy inexpensive duct, masking, or packing tape. Encourage children to create buildings, vehicles, toys, etc. with the boxes, tape, and markers.
- Set out measuring tools such as cloth and metal measuring tapes, rulers, and unconventional measuring materials (paper clips, shoes, pencils, etc.) for children to measure objects and people in the room.
- What is it?- place tools in shoeboxes that have a hole cut out of one side, big enough for a child to stick their hand through. Children guess what tool it is by feeling it.



- Set out straws, toilet and paper towel tubes, hole punches, and pieces of cardboard to see what the children can create.

#### Crafts as **Roofing:**

- Craft stick structures
- Make construction vests out of brown paper shopping bags
- Build a structure with sugar cubes and glue
- Shape activity- provide a variety of shapes cut from colored paper and instruct the child to glue the pieces on a piece of paper to create a structure- house, bridge, wall, school, etc.



#### Snacks as Decoration:

Mini-donuts



Gardetto or  
Chex Mix/  
Pretzels



Marshmallows on  
pretzel sticks covered  
in chocolate



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